

LANESBOROUGH TREE AND FOREST COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING May 4, 2015

In attendance: Paula Brydy, Nick DeCandia, Jim Neureuther, Anne Pasko
and Katharine Westwood

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair Jim Neureuther at 4:05 p.m.
2. The minutes of the February 26, 2015 meeting were approved

3. TREASURER'S REPORT:

- a. General Fund Balance \$43.47 (Must use by 6/30)
- b. Revolving Fund Balance is \$4,553.61
 - i \$40.00 donation from David and Sherri Wilson.
 - ii \$250 tree donation from Carol Miedema in memory of Harmon & Jane Witter

4. TREE MAINTENANCE

- a. Skyline byway trees are mostly ok, however one looks to be in some trouble and one looks as if it is not going to live.
- b. The School Arboretum looks in good shape. We'll look at them during Arbor Day to see what maintenance is needed.
- c. The trees at Laston Park – three are questionable, 2 have large splits and one has a damaged trunk. We must ascertain the reason that trees do not survive well at Laston prior to planting anymore there.

5. 250TH TREE PLANTINGS

- a. \$250 donation from Ralph & Sue Shulman
- b. \$250 donation from Lee & Joann Hauge
- c. \$250 donation from Carrie & David Shulman
- d. \$250 donation from Carol Miedema
- e. \$500 donation from Walter and Anne Pasko
- f. \$250 donation from Harold and Paula Brydy
- g. Commitment from Frances & Martin Connors Foundation of \$500 to plant two trees
- h. Commitment from Jim and Donna Neureuther for \$250

We have had no further word from the Liberty Tree application which had been submitted earlier.

The Committee discussed the types of commemorative trees to be planted and planting locations in Town. It is decided that there is room for 6 or 7 trees on the outer ring walking path at Laston Park.

There is room for 2 ornamentals at Laston on the park side of the car bridge.

There is at present no Oak, and no Tupelo.

A discussion ensued as the procurement of the trees and it was decided that the Committee would go on a fact-finding/learning mission to Windy Hill in Great Barrington and meet with one of their botanists. This road trip will take place on May 12, 2015.

It is agreed that we will purchase long lasting, tasteful plaques for each tree.

6. FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES

100 magnets depicting King Elmer and noting the 250th have been ordered from Cafe Press for \$220 which includes the shipping.

1 magnet will be given to each 3rd grade student and their teachers during Arbor Day, May 14, 2015

The remainder will be sold at various venues @\$5.00.

More magnets can easily be ordered if necessary.

Discussed when and where to sell the magnets which will be displayed on a metal sheet that Paula will purchase.

We will sell them at various 250 events such as: July 12 concert and July 19 Town Picnic as well as 2 or 3 Saturdays at Post Office, etc.

7. ARBOR DAY-

Date: May 14th at 9 a.m. at Lanesborough Elementary School with the 3rd grade classes (about 32 students)

The students will present posters and poems to the committee

Jim will conduct an outdoor tree education

Robert Fraker will play guitar and conduct a sing-a-long with the students

The Arbor Day Proclamation will be read aloud.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Updated the volunteer time and expense items – Reported approx. 20 -25 hours of volunteer time since the last meeting. There is a balance of \$43. in the general fund.

b. Our recertification for Tree City application has been approved. There is a luncheon and awards ceremony in Amherst on June 3 from 9-3. This event is free but rsvp must be made by May 19th, 2015.

c. Kacy will eliminate 2006 archival information on the Town Website and will add recent newsletters.

d. All committee should insure that they have completed the Open Meeting compliance training and the Conflict of Interest training which is on line. You will receive a formal certificate at the end of the training which must be submitted to the town clerk.

9. NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, JUNE 8, 1 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne W. Pasko